

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/18/08 has been entered.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Rewrite **claim 2** as follows:

--2. (amended) A conductive composition, for use as a coating on a substrate, consisting of:

(a) finely divided particles of an electrically conductive material selected from the group consisting of silver, gold, platinum, palladium, and mixtures thereof;

(b) a lead-free inorganic binder; dispersed in

(c) a liquid vehicle wherein the total composition contains 50-95% by weight solids and wherein said inorganic binder is

present at less than 0.8% of the total solids in the composition.--

In **claim 4**, line 5, change "claims 1 to 3" to --claim 2--.

Rewrite **claim 5** as follows:

--5. (amended) An article comprising a substrate having on at least a part thereof a layer of enamel, and on at least a part of said enamel an electrically-conductive pattern, said electrically-conductive pattern is formed from a conductive composition according to claim 2.--

Cancel claims **1, 3, 6-12, 17-19**.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Barbara C. Siegell on 08/18/08.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Initially, note that non-elected (article and method) claims 4 and 5 have been rejoined.

With respect to claim 2 (as amended), each of Okamoto et al (5,616,173), Carroll et al (5,612,062), Oba et al (5,670,089) and JP 11-120821 contain/require additional components excluded

from the instant claims or do not disclose/suggest the instantly recited type(s) and ratio of inorganic binder.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Kopec whose telephone number is (571) 272-1319. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on (571) 272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Kopec/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit
1796

MK
August 18, 2008